

Saltash RFC

Youth Section Newsletter

September 2018



Welcome to the 2018/19 season at Saltash RFC. We had a record youth player membership last season, with **222** registered players from U7- Colts. As a result, we are the biggest youth sport organisation in the area with **45** qualified Coaches and numerous volunteer helpers. This is a fantastic feat in itself and shows that our youth section is a real leader in promoting Rugby Union in the South West.

Our Clubhouse

We have finished most of the major work that was required and we are now focusing on improving car parking and although we have received an outline lease renewal, there are still quite a few areas of the lease that need finalisation before we accept it. Please remember the club is available for hire for all your functions large or small, full catering is also available for private and corporate occasions. Contact Dave Honey, Club steward, for more details or to book on 07981 439852.

Post Match

As part of the rugby experience, we encourage all players to return to the clubhouse as a team for a player's meal and 'Man of the Match' awards etc. after matches. Please be aware that a strict **NO MUD** policy is enforced in the club. Please ensure your children change or cover up after their matches so that they can enjoy their post match meal and that you as parents take off your muddy footwear before entering the club. This will help keep the club as clean as possible and avoid any embarrassment. Club changing rooms will be available for this.

Parking

Moorlands Lane and Smithy Close are residential and industrial areas, please consider residents and businesses when parking at the club. Please use common sense and if you are in doubt then please ask before leaving your vehicle. We have a good relationship with our neighbours and we want to maintain this. Please do not park in front of the main entry gate to the pitch on the double yellow lines, this prevents vehicle access to the ground in the event of an emergency.

Club Subscriptions

We have found it necessary to increase our Subscription fees for this season, this is the first increase in two years, therefore £80 for the first youth player, £60 for siblings/subsequent youth players. The only exception will be U6's (year 1) where subscription will be pro-rata based on their birthday as they cannot compete in matches until they are 6 years of age. We ask that you are prompt with your payments and if you have any problems with payment then please let your coach know so we can assist. Last season we were still collecting fees in March, this puts the club under a lot of financial strain, please can you therefore settle up i.a.w. our payment plan, thank you.

Kit

Rugby is a winter sport so it is important to ensure that all our players have the right kit, not only to play matches in but also for training and to cope with the Cornish weather which can be very daunting at times. Warm, dry players equal happy players. We run a Kit shop at Mini home matches on Sunday mornings for you to purchase or to order kit. To pre-order please contact Charmian Jones through the Youth section Facebook page.

Coach Development

We will set aside two evenings during the season for Coach development, this ensures that we are all kept up to date on the latest rules of play, club coaching policies and current coaching practices. Courses are run by the RFU and we utilise this to the full. New Coaches will be expected to attend all relevant courses for their age group and for the safe and correct coaching of children in general. The Club funds all Coaching, First aid and safeguarding courses. Should you need to discuss any aspects of coaching or require details on relevant courses, please contact Lee Maher or Craig Jones, Coaching Co-ordinator/Assistant Co-ordinator, through the Youth section Facebook page.

Mid-Week Training

Your coach will confirm your team mid-week training session, provisional days are:

Tuesday – U13, U14, U15 Wednesday – U9 (TBC), U16 Thursday – U10, U11, U12

Training is at Chapel Field, however when the clocks go back at the end of October, training moves to Saltash.net Community School at the all weather pitch, a valuable asset to maintain skill levels in the dark winter months. We are hoping, through funding from the Community, RFU, Sponsorship and Club, that we can invest in a set of floodlights to maintain training on grass.

Winter training 30th October 2018 – 21st March 2019, all sessions 18:00-19:00 apart from Colts training.

E- Communication/ Social Media

For fixtures, match reports and club news (Senior, Colts, Junior and Mini) visit www.pitchero.com/clubs/saltash

For Saltash RFC Youth visit **Facebook – Saltash RFC Youth** (some teams have their own team page)

Twitter = **@saltashrugby**

Team Tours

We actively encourage tours as it broadens the Rugby experience and helps bond our players into close knit units, it also provides a lifetime of memories that all the team can share. This season our U15s are hoping for a whistle stop tour of North Devon in September, our U16s hoping to head off to Ireland in February or April and our U11s planning a tour to Gloucestershire. If you would like to help your coaches run a tour, then please get in touch with them.

Youth Sponsors

Our ability to function as a club is very dependent on sponsorship, without it we would find it very difficult to fund the Youth section from club subscriptions alone. Many thanks to our current sponsors:

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| Spuds | Flatseal 20 | Becton Dickenson | Devonport Royal Dockyard Employee Trust |
| Ryearch | Direct Vending | Hines Marquees | Woodside Enterprise |
| ITEC | Snook Enterprises | WBM Groundworks | Construction Management Ltd |
| LawNOrder | FreshNLocal | HK Consultants | Super Bowls Chinese Takeaway |
| Howdens | Master Clean | Vulcanising South West | |

If you or your company would like to become one of our sponsors then please contact Dan Piercy (Club Sponsor Co-ordinator) or Noel Hill (Youth Chairman).

Fund Raising

A big part of any club, and equally important if your team are considering a tour, trip to Twickenham to watch an International or to Exeter Chiefs for a Super Saturday. It helps to ease the overall costs and sometimes means the difference between going or staying put. If you have any ideas for fund raising for your team or for the youth section in general then please contact the youth committee or your team coach.

Youth Committee Members

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| Chairman - Noel Hill | Treasurer – Mel Simmonds | Secretary - Rachael Piercy |
| Coaching Co-ordinator – Lee Maher | Fixture Secretary – Rachael Piercy | Safeguarding Officer - Sarah Oakley |
| Mini Rep – Hayleigh Eglinton | Junior Rep – Steve Baker | Coaches Rep – Ben Elford |

Volunteers

Everyone involved in the running of the youth section voluntarily gives up their time to make it the success it is today. Any extra help is always gratefully received and will ensure that we are able to continue to deliver a positive and pleasurable Rugby experience for all our youngsters. Please consider giving up a little of your time to help us out; run a raffle, a cake sale, team manager, parents representative, assistant coach, first aider.... it goes on!!

Finally

I would like to thank you all, parents and players alike for continuing to support and play for Saltash RFC. We have a great club, we play a high standard of rugby and have an excellent reputation in Devon and Cornwall for being a welcoming, friendly club with great team spirit at all levels, this is all down to you. Let's make this season another one for us to remember and be remembered. Be proud of your club and play your Rugby from the heart!!

Noel Hill - Youth Chairman, Saltash RFC